

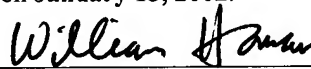
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mao et al. )  
Serial No: To be Assigned ) Group Art Unit: 1714  
Filed: HEREWITH ) Examiner: Szekely, P.  
Title: *Biodegradable Polymers Chain-Extended by* )  
*Phosphates, Compositions, Articles and Methods* )  
*for Using the Same* )

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, "Post Office to Addressee," in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 15, 2002.

Express Mail Labeling No. EL 719 922 005 US

  
William Homan

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1)**

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a list of publications known to Applicants and/or their Attorney/Agent in compliance with the requirement of 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Under 35 U.S.C. §120, this application relies on the earlier filing date of prior application SN: 09/0654,326, filed on September 1, 2000, which is a continuation of SN 09/053,649, filed April 2, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of application SN 08/832,217 filed on April 3 1997. The following documents were submitted to the Office in prior application and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application: "AA - AQ".

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of the First Office Action on the merits, no fee is due.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form 1449.

Applicants have listed dates of publication on the attached PTO-1449 for the cited documents based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed that the information in the cited documents was actually published or otherwise publicly available on the date indicated.

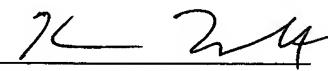
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Nor does it constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account, No. 06-1448.

Respectfully submitted,

FOLEY, HOAG & ELIOT, LLP

By:   
Kingsley L. Taft  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 43,946

Dated: January 15, 2002  
**Customer No.: 25181**  
Patent Group  
Foley, Hoag & Eliot LLP  
One Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02109  
Voice: (617) 832-1169  
Facsimile: (617) 832-7000

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*
Docket Number (Optional)  
GPT-005.03

Application Number

Applicant  
Mao et al.

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA	3,442,982	05/06/69	Friedman et al.			
AB	5,256,765	10/26/93	Leong			
AC	5,530,093	06/25/96	Engelhardt et al			
AD	5,952,451	9/14/99	Zhao			
AE	6,008,318	12/28/99	Zhao et al.			
AF	6,166,173	12/26/00	Mao et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
AG	EP 0 193 019	09/03/86	Europe				
AH	EP 0 386 757	09/12/90	Europe				
AI	WO 97/40085	10/30/97	PCT				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages Etc.)*

AJ	Fu et al., "Studies on the Melt Copolymerization of Phosphorus-Containing Diacid and BIS (p-Carboxyphenoxy) Propanol for DDS," J. Wuhan Univ. (Natural Science Edition), 43(4):467-470 (1997).
AK	Fu et al., "Studies on the Syntheses and Drug Release Properties of Polyanhydrides Containing Phosphonoformic (or Acetic) Acid Ethyl Ester in the Main Chain," Chemical Journal of Chinese Universities, 18(10):1706-1710 (1997).
AL	Fu et al., "Studies on the Syntheses and Properties of Phosphorus-Containing Polyanhydrides for DDS," Chemical Journal of Chinese Universities, 18(5):813-817 (1997).
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Application Number

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

311017 U.S. PRO

10/04/94

01/15/02

[illegible][illegible]

AM	Heller et al., "Release of Norethindrone form Poly(OrthoEsters)," Polymer Engineering Sci., 21:11, 727-31 (1981)
AN	Liu et al., "Synthesis of Phosphatidyl Ethanolamine Polyphosphate Liposomal Materials," Chemical Journal of Chinese Universities, 18(9):1556-1559 (1997).
AO	Mao et al., "Design of New Biodegradable Polymers Based on Chain-Extension of Oligomeric Lactides by Phosphates," Proceedings of the Topical Conference on Biomaterials Carriers for Drug Delivery and Scaffold for Tissue Engineering, Peppas, N.A. et al., eds. Los Angeles, CA, pp. 193-195 (1997).

EXAMINER		
----------	--	--

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*
Docket Number (Optional)  
GPT-005.03

Application Number

Applicant  
Mao et al.

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages Etc.)*

EXAMINER INITIAL		
	AP	Penczek et al., "Phosphorus-Containing Polymers," Handbook of Polymer Synthesis, Part B, Ch. 17, 1077-1132 (Kricheldorf ed. 1992).
	AQ	Pretula et al., "High-Molecular-Weight Poly(alkylene phosphonate)s by Condensation for Dialkylphosphonates with Diols," Makromol. Chem., 119:671-680 (1990)
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.		